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-- Although a preferred embodiment of the invention has been specifically
illustrated and described herein, it is to be understood that minor
variations may be made in the apparatus without departing from the
spirit and scope of the invention, as defined by the appended claims. --;

and

Page 13, last line, cancel the last sentence ("120:sp-asp13").

IN THE CLAIMS:

After the heading and before claim 1, insert the following new paragraph:

-- What is claimed is: --.

Please cancel all of the claims presently of record and substitute therefor the
following newly drafted claims;

... claims begin on page 4...

(New) 26. A method of securing a screw (14) in a fixture (12), which method comprises the steps of:-

- (i) providing a plug (16) adapted to receive and frictionally hold therein said screw (14);
- (ii) pre-forming a hole (18) in the fixture (12);
- (iii) inserting said plug (16) in said hole (18); and
- (iv) applying said screw (14) to said plug (16) and rotating the screw (14) to advance it into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) thereby to secure the screw (14) in the fixture (12); and

which method includes, when said plug (16) does not engage with a wall defining said hole (20) in a manner sufficient to prevent rotation of the plug (16) with the screw (14) on rotation of the screw (14), said hole (20) being thus over-sized in relation to the plug (16) and the plug (16) being carried only loosely in the hole (20), an improvement which comprises the following steps:-

(a) providing at least one piece of a loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler material (28), which fabric piece (26 or 30) is sized to envelop at least circumferentially the plug (16);

(b) withdrawing the plug (16) from said hole (20) and enveloping it at least circumferentially in the fabric piece (26 or 30);

(c) causing activation of the filler material (28) thereby to initiate hardening and eventual setting of the filler material (28); and

(d) inserting the enveloped plug (16,26,28) without delay in

the oversized hole (20) in a manner such as to ensure filling of the oversized hole (20) with the enveloped plug (16,26,28), thereby when said filler (28) has hardened to prevent rotation of the plug (16) on rotation of the screw (14) to advance it into the plug (16).

(New) 27. A method according to claim 26, wherein the filler material (28) is air activated.

(New) 28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the filler material (28) comprises a polyurethane resin.

(New) 29. A method according to claim 26, wherein the filler material (28) is water activated.

(New) 30. A method according to claim 29, wherein the filler material (28) comprises plaster of Paris.

(New) 31. A method according to claim 29, wherein the filler material (28) comprises a quick-setting material manufactured from gypsum, other than plaster of Paris.

(New) 32. A method according to claim 26, wherein the filler material (28) has mixed in with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set.

(New) 33. A method according to claim 26, wherein the fabric

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piece (26) is in the form of a tape (34), and is wound on to the plug (16) thereby to envelop it circumferentially.

(New) 34. A method according to claim 26, wherein the fabric piece (30) is circular in shape, and is placed over the closed end of the plug (16) and then smoothed longitudinally along the plug (16) to the open end thereof so as to envelop the plug (16) circumferentially in a substantially uniform manner.

(New) 35. A method according to claim 26, wherein the fabric piece (30) is circular in shape, is placed symmetrically over the hole (20), and is pressed into the hole (20) by the closed end of the plug (16) on pressing the plug (16) into the hole (20), thereby to cause the fabric piece (26,28) to envelop the plug (16) circumferentially.

(New) 36. Means for practising a method according to claim 26, comprising a piece of loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler material (28), which fabric piece (26 or 30) is shaped and sized for use with the plug.

(New) 37. Means according to claim 36, wherein the filler material has mixed in with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set.

(New) 38. Means according to claim 36, wherein the piece of filler material carrying fabric (30) is circular in shape.

(New)39. Means according to claim 36, wherein the piece of filler material carrying fabric (26) is rectangular in shape.

(New)40. Means according to claim 36, wherein the piece of filler material carrying fabric (26,28 or 28,30) is part of and is detachable from a tape (34) of said filler material carrying fabric, which tape is transversely weakened at positions (36) spaced along the tape (34) to enable ready detachment of successive pieces (38) as required for use.

(New)41. Means according to claim 40, wherein the filler material (28) has mixed in with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set.

(New)42. Means according to claim 40, wherein the tape (34) is in the form of a roll (40).

(New)43. Means according to claim 40, wherein the tape (34) is folded upon itself at said weakened positions (36) in a fan-fold manner (42).

(New)44. Means according to claim 36, wherein said piece of filler material carrying fabric (26,28 or 28,30) is one of a plurality of said filler-carrying fabric pieces (26,30,38) enclosed in an enclosure means (32) arranged to prevent premature activation of the filler material (28).

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(New) 45. Means according to claim 44, wherein the enclosure means (32) incorporates a resealable closure means for enabling withdrawal of individual fabric pieces (26,30,38) one at a time.

(New) 46. Means according to claim 36, wherein the filler material carrying fabric (26,28 or 26,30) and the plug (16) are pre-united as a single unit ready for use when required.

(New) 47. A unit according to claim 46, wherein the filler material (28) has mixed in with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set. -

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please cancel the Abstract of the Disclosure of record and substitute therefor the newly typed Abstract of the Disclosure: